private developers implementing these projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS MAJOR GENERAL (RETD.) (B.C. KHANDURI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) About 10, 000 km of National Highways carrying high volume of traffic, are proposed to be taken up for widening to four-lanes through public-private partnership. These projects will be funded on Build, Operate and Transfer (BOT) basis. If required, Government will provide subsidy in the form of annuity flow. The total cost of the project for 10, 000 km of National Highways is estimated to be Rs. 40, 000 crores approximately.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) In the Budget proposals for 2003-2004, an amount of Rs. 2,000 crores has been provided for development of infrastructure including the above mentioned highway project.

By-passes on National Highways in Assam

5088. DR. ARUN KUMAR SARMA : Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the projects formulated and being implemented for construction of bypasses on various National Highways in Assam during Ninth and Tenth Plan indicating the outlays, amount already utilized and the progress of work made;

(b) the date, on which first proposal was made, work done and the progress made in chronological order till March, 2003 on each of such bypasses, year-wise; and

(c) the reasons for delay in commissioning the actual work and the target set to complete indicating year-wise allocation made during the Tenth Plan period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS MAJOR GENERAL (RETD.) (B.C. KHANDURI) : (a) and (b) During Ninth and Tenth Plan period so far, one bypass around Karimganj town on NH-44 in the State of Assam was taken up and is under implementation. Construction of this bypass, which also includes two Road Over Bridges (ROBs) and one major bridge, commenced in April, 1997 with an estimated cost of Rs. 20.25 crores and is targeted for completion by March, 2005. The present physical and

financial progress on this project is 76% and Rs. 17.25 crores respectively. The year-wise progress achieved on this bypass upto 31-3-2003 is as follows :

Year	1997-98	1998-99	1999-2000	2000-01	2001-02	2002-03	Total
Physical progress (%)	4	3	16	30	17	6	76

(c) Completion of the project has been delayed due to delay in land acquisition by the State Govt.

Pollution Check

5089. SHRI AMAR SINGH : Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the existing system of pollution check is not fool-proof;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) the remedial steps Government have taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS MAJOR GENERAL (RETD.) (B.C. KHANDURI) : (a) to (c) Under Central Motor Vehicles Rules, 1989, the norms for Pollution Control Checks and the periodicity for such checks have been prescribed. Enforcement of these provisions is the responsibility of the transport authorities of respective States/ UTs. Prescription of tighter norms and inclusion of more number of pollutants under the check is an on going process duly taking into account the constantly improving motor vehicle technology, availability of duly certified emission measurement equipment as also the availability of required infrastructure in PUC certification centres.

Link with National Highways in Karnataka

5090. DR. VIJAY MALLYA : Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of National Highways passing through Karnataka;

(b) the number of districts that are served by these National Highways;

(c) whether Government propose to link the remaining districts of the State of Karnataka to the National Highways; and